

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please approve the drawing change as shown in red on the attached marked-up copy of Fig. 1. A separate Letter to the Draftsman indicating the same proposed drawing change is also enclosed.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and the rejection of claims 1-15 and 17-21 is respectfully requested. Applicant has attempted to address every objection and ground for rejection in the Office Action dated January 11, 2005 and believes the application is now in condition for allowance. The claims have been amended to more clearly describe the present invention.

FIG. 1 has been amended to remove a portion of armature shaft 43. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is presented by this amendment, as the correct configuration of the armature shaft is clearly shown, for example, in FIG. 2.

Claims 1-15 and 17-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikolich in view of Schubert. Applicant has amended one or more claims and respectfully traverse the rejection insofar as it pertains to the claims as amended.

Claim 1 has been amended to further define, among other features, a suspension mechanism for a fan motor disposed within a cylinder head, the cylinder head defining a cavity including a floor, where the fan motor is disposed within the cavity such that, in a rest position, a lower end of a sidewall of the motor is disposed above and spaced from the floor. Claim 1 has been further amended to define that an elastic member counteracts and dampens acceleration in an axial direction of the motor relative to the floor. Applicant respectfully submits that these features are neither disclosed nor suggested by Nikolich or Schubert. In Nikolich (for example, see FIG. 1), motor 61 extends below cylinder head 25 and into a combustion chamber 21. The lower end of the motor 61 is clearly

below the cylinder head 25, and thus a lower end of a sidewall of the motor is not disposed above and spaced from a floor of a cavity of the cylinder head. Further, Nikolich fails to disclose or suggest that an elastic member dampens acceleration in an axial direction of the motor relative to such a floor. Schubert fails to remedy deficiencies of Nikolich regarding at least these features.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 as amended and dependent claims 2-8 are allowable over the references of record, including Nikolich and Schubert. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 9 has been amended to further define, among other features, that a cylinder head substantially encloses a motor such that a sidewall of the motor is entirely external of a combustion chamber, and that the axial acceleration of the motor is relative to a separation point on the cylinder head between the motor sidewall and the combustion chamber. Applicant respectfully submits that Nikolich fails to teach or suggest at least these features, as the lower end of the sidewall of motor 61 clearly extends below the cylinder head 25 and within the combustion chamber 21. Schubert fails to remedy deficiencies of Nikolich regarding at least these features.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 as amended and dependent claims 10-16 are allowable over the references of record, including Nikolich and Schubert. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 17 has been amended to further define, among other features, that acceleration of a fan motor in an axial direction away from a workpiece is constrained solely via an elastic member. Applicant respectfully submits that Nikolich fails to teach or suggest at least this feature. For example, FIG. 1 of Nikolich (of which FIG. 2 is of the same embodiment) shows an O-ring 60 providing a seal between the motor 61 and the combustion chamber 21. Such a seal provides additional constraint of the acceleration of motor 61 in the axial direction away from the workpiece. Schubert fails to remedy deficiencies of Nikolich regarding at least these features.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 and dependent claim 18 are allowable over the references of record, including Nikolich and Schubert. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 19 has been amended to further define, among other features, that the cylinder head defines a cavity including a floor, where the fan motor is disposed within the cavity such that, in a rest position, a lower end of a sidewall of the motor is disposed above and spaced from the floor. Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by Nikolich for at least the reasons stated above regarding claim 1. Further, claim 19 has been amended to additionally define that acceleration of a motor in an upward axial direction is constrained solely via the elastic member. Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested in Nikolich for at least the reasons stated above regarding amended claim 17. Schubert fails to remedy deficiencies of Nikolich

regarding at least these features. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.


Claim 20 has been amended to further define, among other things, that the cylinder head defines a cavity including a floor, where the fan motor is disposed within the cavity such that, in a rest position, a lower end of a sidewall of the fan motor is disposed above and spaced from the floor. Applicant respectfully submits that Nikolich neither discloses nor suggests at least this feature for at least the reasons stated above regarding claim 1. Amended claim 20 further additionally defines that the fan motor is disposed such that the sidewall of the fan motor is entirely external of the combustion chamber. As stated above regarding amended claim 9, for example, motor 61 of Nikolich is not entirely external of the combustion chamber 21, but rather extends into the combustion chamber. Claim 20 has been further amended to additionally define that an elastic member dampens the upward axial acceleration of the fan motor relative to the floor of a cavity of a cylinder head. Applicant respectfully submits that Nikolich fails to disclose or suggest at least this feature, at least because Nikolich fails to disclose a floor of a cavity as defined, as shown in FIGs. 1-9. Schubert fails to remedy deficiencies of Nikolich regarding at least these features.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 and dependent claim 21 are allowable over the references of record, including Nikolich and Schubert. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application, including all pending, elected claims, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should he find that any further issues exist related to patentability. Contact may alternatively be made with Lisa Soltis, the principal attorney of record, at (847)724-7500. All correspondence should be directed to Ms. Soltis.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 
Arik B. Ranson
Registration No. 43, 874

Customer No. 24978

April 11, 2005

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
P:\DOCS\0901\71309\904274.DOC

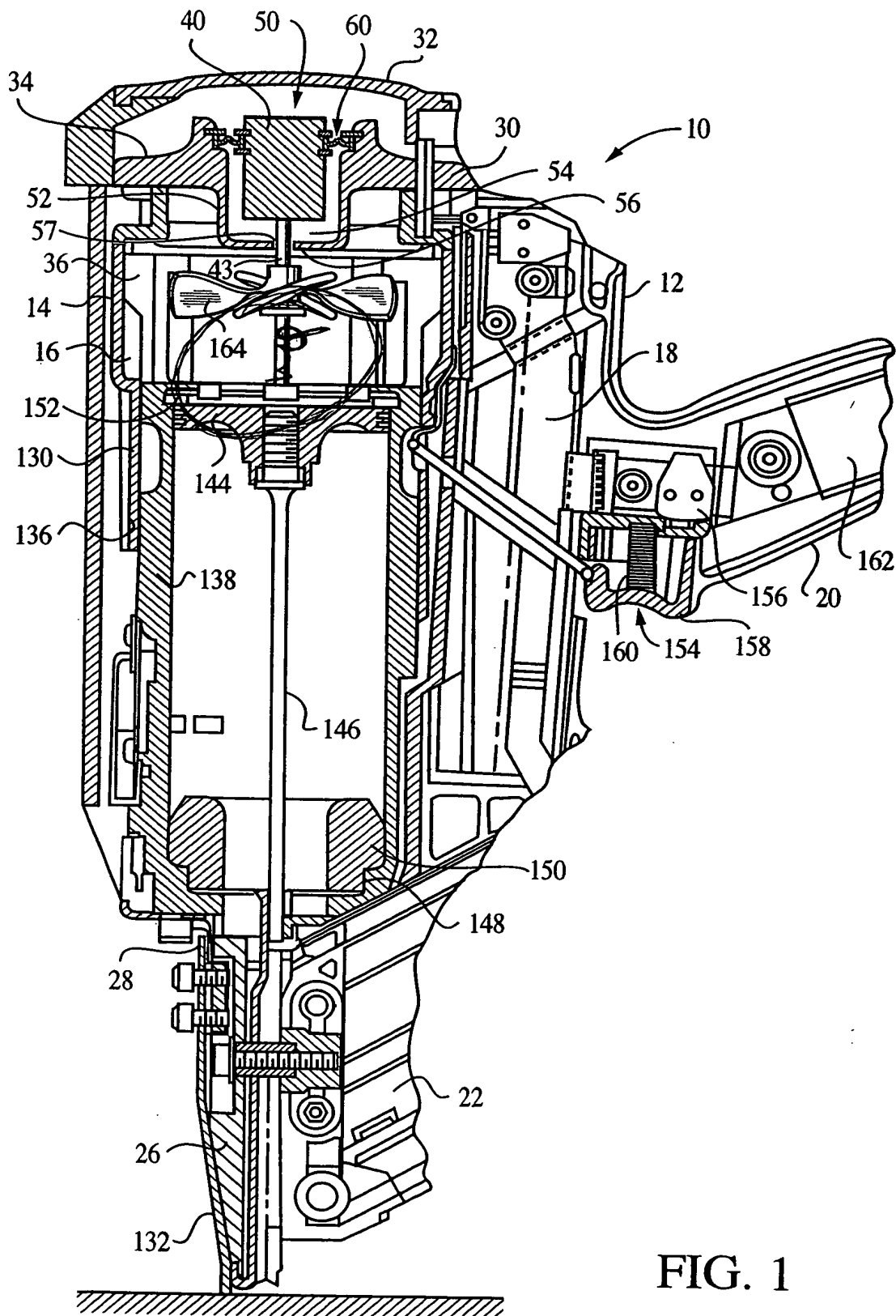


FIG. 1

